

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A tolerance ring has a band (16) with outwardly extending corrugated protrusions forming waves (2) which engage a surface (8) of the bore (4) in a housing (5). At one end of the tolerance ring is an outwardly flared guide surface (15a, 15b) extending axially from the band (16). The guide surface (15a, 15b) acts as an enlarged entrance to the band (16) from a shaft (3) to be mounted in the bore (4) by insertion into the tolerance ring. The use of the guide surface (15a, 15b) assists assembly and reduces or eliminates particle production. It is also possible for the corrugated portions to extend inwardly, for the guide surface to be inwardly flared, and for the tolerance ring to be mounted on the shaft prior to insertion in the bore.

On page 18 of the application as filed, in the first and second paragraphs, starting at line 1 (corresponding to paragraphs 57 and 58 of the published application), please amend the specification as follows:

outward waves 2 to be used in the apparatus but minimises minimizes or eliminates the particle production that results from the arrangements shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3. The tolerance ring 13 includes a guide portion indicated generally in Figure 4 by 14. The guide portion 14 resembles a funnel, which flares towards the entrance of the bore 4. The guide portion comprises a flared guide surfaces surface, indicated in cross section by 15a and 15b in Figure 4, extending axially from the band 16 of the ring 13 towards the entrance of the bore 4.

The guide surfaces surface 15a and 15b provide provides an enlarged entrance to the band 16 of the ring 13 for receiving the bearing, eliminating foul on the edge of the ring as described in Example 2. Guide surfaces surface 15a and 15b are is sufficiently smooth so as to guide the bearing 3 into the ring 13, even if there is some axial misalignment of the bearing 3 and the ring 13. As the waves 2 of the ring 13 do not abrade against any surface during assembly and

the end of the bearing 3 does not abrade against the ring 13, particle production is avoided. The arrangement using an S.V. type ring is preferable for the hard disk drive.

On page 19 of the application as filed, in the third paragraph, starting at line 16 (corresponding to paragraph 61 of the published application), please amend the specification as follows:

The ring includes a tapered guide portion indicated generally in Figure 6 by 22, extending axially from the band 23 of the ring, away from the shaft 18. The guide portion comprises a guide surfaces surface, indicated in cross section in Figure 6 by 24a and 24b, sloping towards the axis of the ring to narrow the opening of the band 23. The guide surfaces surface 24a and 24b axially leads into the bore 4 during assembly. The guide surfaces allow surface allows correction of axial misalignment of the bearing and the bore. The guide portion prevents the ring fouling on the edge of the bore 20, reducing or even eliminating particle production.